

HOUSE BILL 2622

By Powers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 13, relative to the selection of candidates
for United States senator.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-13-203(a)(1), is amended by deleting the language "§ 2-13-202" and substituting instead the language "§ 2-13-202 or § 2-13-209".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 13, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

2-13-209.

(a) Notwithstanding § 2-13-202(3), candidates for the United States senate are nominated as follows, to be placed upon the appropriate general election November ballot, upon the expiration of the term of office for which a candidate for the United States senate was elected:

(1) The members of the majority caucus in the senate shall, in an open meeting, select a person to be considered for that party's nominee for candidate in the general election in the manner prescribed by rules adopted by the majority caucus. The rules must establish a mechanism for citizens desiring to be considered as a candidate for the seat to have their names placed in nomination;

(2) The members of the minority caucus in the senate shall, in an open meeting, select a person to be considered for that party's nominee for candidate in the general election in the manner prescribed by rules adopted by the minority

caucus. The rules must establish a mechanism for citizens desiring to be considered as a candidate for the seat to have their names placed in nomination;

(3) The members of the majority and minority caucuses of the house of representatives shall, in open meetings, vote to accept or reject the person selected by the senate majority and minority caucuses, respectively, to run as that party's candidate in the general election in the manner prescribed by rules adopted by each caucus. If the person selected by a senate caucus receives a majority of the house caucus votes in favor of nomination, that person is that party's nominee; and

(4) A recognized minor party may nominate persons for the United States senate in a manner authorized pursuant to § 2-13-203(a)(2).

(b) A person selected pursuant to this subdivision (a)(1) who does not win the nomination as candidate for the majority party or the minority party shall not qualify as an independent candidate or write-in candidate in the general election for United States senator.

(c) This section is repealed January 1, 2034, unless extended by a subsequent act of the general assembly.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.